

OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (Epsom and Ewell)

REIGATE ROAD OUTSIDE 136A PROPOSED UNCONTROLLED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

13 SEPTEMBER 2010

KEY ISSUE

To consider the introduction of an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing outside 136a Reigate Road, approximately 400 metres north of the College Road roundabout.

SUMMARY

It has been identified that the single footway serving this part of Reigate Road discontinues northbound on the east side of the road and commences northbound on the west side. At present there are no facilities at this location to assist pedestrians who must cross the road.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee is asked to:

i) Approve installation of an uncontrolled crossing facility.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The A240 Reigate Road is a busy single carriageway linking the A24 at Ewell with the A217 at Burgh Heath. The speed limit along Reigate road varies but, at the position of the proposed crossing, it is set at 40 mph.
- 1.2 It has been known for many years that pedestrians cross the road at this location but more pressing demands have prevented it from being targeted for resources. An opportunity has now arisen to deploy Section 106 monies to provide a facility.
- 1.3 The facility will lie on the route of pedestrians walking to NESCOT and beyond to Ewell Village. Although not heavily used, it is estimated that upwards of 12 people cross the road at this point every day which is likely to increase with the introduction of a crossing point.

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 Details of the proposed crossing are illustrated in Annex A.
- 2.2 The type of crossing proposed is proportionate to the level of use it would be likely to receive in the short term and the foreseeable future
- 2.3 The proposals have been reviewed under stage 1 of the safety audit process and comprise a pedestrian refuge outside number 136a together with traffic islands along each approach. The layout is designed to moderate approach speeds to enhance safety.
- 2.4 The speed limit along Reigate Road between Ewell By Pass and Longdown Lane North has recently been reduced from 40 mph to 30 mph. It had been suggested that the speed limit throughout Reigate Road should be reduced to 30 mph but this had been opposed by Surrey Police on the grounds there had been no pattern of speed related accidents between Longdown Lane North and Drift Bridge and that 85th percentile speeds were too high for effective enforcement of the reduced limit. The arrangement now proposed may be expected to reduce the 85th percentile speed in the vicinity and this could serve to build the case for a further review of the speed limit locally.
- 2.5 Local residents have not been consulted at this time but their views will be sought before any work commences on site and reported to the Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- 2.6 Surrey Police have expressed support for the proposed measures.

3 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Funding for the scheme will be met from Section 106 contributions already held.

4 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The measures will incorporate facilities for the blind and mobility impaired in the form of dropped kerbs and tactile paving. The width of 1.5 metres proposed for the pedestrian refuge is greater than the 1.2 metre minimum requirement specified by the Department for Transport.

5 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None perceived.

6 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 It is recommended that the proposals are approved for detailed design and implementation, subject to informal consultation with nearby residents and endorsement by Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman.

7 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The measures will provide a valuable link in an otherwise complete pedestrian route and may help moderate traffic speeds.

8 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

8.1 Should approval be forthcoming, the design will be finalised in collaboration with the Council's Road Safety Team, advertised in accordance with statutory procedure and implemented during the current financial year (ending 31st March 2011).

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